

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

No new matter would be added to this application by entry of this amendment.

Upon entry of this amendment, claims 3, 4, 7, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 17 and 19 will now be active in this application.

The claimed invention is directed to a process for preparing a treated immobilized enzyme.

Applicants wish to thank examiner Fernandez for allowing claims 3, 4, 7, 8, 10, 12, 14, 17 and 19 as well as indicating that claim 16 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection based on 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Applicants have now amended claim 16 as suggested by the examiner to recite "the moisture content of the immobilized enzyme as a result of contacting in step ii)." In view of applicants' amendment, withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph is respectfully requested.

The rejections of claims 1, 5, 9, 11, 13, 15 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) and for obviousness-type double patenting is now moot as these claims have been canceled without prejudice to their further prosecution in one or more continuation applications.

Applicants submit that this application is now in condition for allowance and early notification of such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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